

# *The BoarsTale . . .Online*

*A Publication of Headquarters, Georgia Air National Guard, Dobbins ARB, GA September 2000*

## **Commanders' Column**

**Col Lou Burson, Exec Support Staff Officer**

Well, it is that time of year again – the annual run and weigh-in. When I graduated from college and went to OTS (Officer Training School), I weighed 205 pounds. I had them put me on the Weight Management Program because it gave you extra time to run. This allowed you to run 3 miles in addition to the organized 1 ½ mile run per day.

When I went through OTS, there was a lot of prior service, older individuals in my class (60%). This one guy was 33 years old, smoked like crazy and never ran unless he was made to. He challenged me on our final run test and I knew I could beat him because I was 27 years old, and by that time, I was down to 170 pounds and had run over 300 miles.

Before I went to OTS, the last time I had run 1½ miles was my final test at Army Basic Training. (You know, as I think back, the Army 1 ½ mile run was harder than the OTS 1½ mile run.)

The OTS final 1½ mile was quickly approaching. I was running every day, eating right and even working out at the gym. The day finally arrived and I felt I was really going to leave this guy in my dust. Boy, was I fooled, we sea-sawed back and forth, and when it came to the final finish, he beat me by 3 seconds. To this day, I have not been able to figure out what happened.

The challenge of OTs and the need to lose weight disciplined me to maintain a daily routine of running at least 3 miles. I still do it for weight control, but the primary reason now is cardiovascular enhancement. I really don't know if I could quit running. There are days when you just don't feel like running, you don't have time and you wonder why you even run, but you do it anyway.

I feel this obsession to run for whatever reason, has disciplined me to confront difficult obstacles in both my personal life and the work place. Running is not the issue; it is the self-control, the challenge and the self-fulfillment to succeed. We never know how or what some small or large, continuous or seldom, events in our lives will effect our personality, attitude, values, principles or our total development. One small circumstance can make us a useful and productive participant in society. I'm still running the race.

## **Weekend UTA Schedule**

### **Saturday**

**0645 Formation**

**0700 Walk-Run/Weigh-In**

**0900 Joint Staff Meeting (Officers & Enlisted)**

**1100 HQ Picnic**

### **Sunday**

**0645 Formation**

**0700 Chapel Service**

**0800 Promotion Boards Convene**

**1100 Lunch**

**1530 Release**

## **ANG News from the Field:**

### **B-1 Officer Receives Distinguished Flying Cross**

Major Thomas Bell, a B-1 Weapons Officer of the 116th Bomb Wing was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for personal heroism earned in a B-1 bomber in the skies over Kosovo in 1999. The Distinguished Flying Cross is America's third highest award for valor.

Bell, who commands the 116th's Weapons and Tactics shop and is a Weapons Control Officer instructor in the 128<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron, was presented the distinctive award by Brig Gen William N. Searcy, Commander of the Georgia Air National Guard during ceremonies held in August at Robins AFB.

Bell earned the award while participating in a B-1 combat mission in support of Operation Allied Force over Kosovo. The mission Bell flew was the first B-1 mission flown during the conflict in Kosovo. On an April 1, 1999 mission, Bell experienced numerous in-flight challenges, beginning with a weapons release malfunction on his first bomb run. Correcting the malfunction, Bell completed a second run achieving multiple kills on tanks, armored personnel carriers and forces in the field. As the weapons system officer, Bell defended the aircraft on two separate occasions against tactical surface-to-air missile launches and completed an unscheduled aerial refueling before returning the B-1 safely to RAF Fairford in England.

Bell, who was assigned to the 77th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron, 2nd Air Expeditionary Group, RAF Fairford ultimately flew fifteen combat sorties during the three months in theatre.

## Annual HQ Walk/Run/Weigh-In Scheduled for Sept UTA

Fitness Performance Standards		
Age	1.5 mile Run	3.0-mile Walk
	Male/Female	Male/Female
17-29	14:30/15:36	40:54/43:52
30-34	15:00/16:05	42:04/45:10
35-39	15:30/16:40	43:15/46:29
40-44	16:00/17:30	44:25/47:44
45-49	16:30/17:45	45:34/48:55
50+	17:00/18:15	48:19/52:02

### First Female Guardsman Retires with over 25 Years

Sergeant Louvenia K. Cook was on of the first two females to enlist into the 283rd Combat Communications Squadron then located in Savannah under the command of Brig Gen Creighton Rhodes. In September, Sgt Cook will become the first female in the history of the Georgia Air National Guard to retire with over twenty-five years of traditional Guard service. She is the only remaining member of the Squadron that has served under all nine commanders from Gen Rhodes to Lt Col Robert Shannon.

Throughout her career, she has provided administrative support for seven workcenters; Analysis Section, First Sergeant's Office, Motor Pool, Maintenance, Quality Control, Operations and her final assignment with the Administrative Section of Management.

She has participated in numerous exercises of the unit. She says her fondest memories are of those unit exercises performed under the command of General Dotson and General Corish. Both leaders, in the opinion of Cook, fostered cohesiveness, team work and camaraderie.

"Given the opportunity, I would not change one thing about the past twenty-seven years," said Sergeant Cook. She will retire and spend more time with family but admits that she will certainly miss all her friends and co-workers.

### Recruiting Incentive Bonus Catching on...but Air Guard participation Slow in Responding

The Governor's National Guard Recruiting Incentive program designed to engage all members of the Georgia National Guard in recruiting has begun to yield impressive results as more than 26 new enlistments are now credited directly to this incentive program.

Begun on July 1, the Recruitment Incentive Program authorizes cash payment to current and retired National Guard soldiers and airmen and other DOD personnel who refer qualified personnel to Guard recruiters and who subsequently enlist in the Army or Air National Guard.

Guardsmen who enlist prior-service or non prior service candidates are eligible for a payment of \$150 per enlistee. Each verifiable "Try-One-In-The-Guard" enlistment receives \$50 cash payment. Currently twenty-six Georgia Guardsmen have received the Governor's Bonus Award for their efforts in enlisting qualified candidates into the Guard. This represents a cash payment of more than \$3,450.

Army Guardsmen have led the way in receiving checks for their personal recruiting efforts while the Air can account for only five new ANG recruits, two by 116BW Guardsmen, one by a 224JCSS Guardsman and one from a retired Air Guardsman.

As both the Georgia Army and Air National Guard struggle to meet National Guard Bureau's year-end strength and readiness figures, the Governor's program represents an attractive approach to recruiting which aids not only the National Guard but also individual Guardsmen.

### Headquarters Promotion Boards

#### Enlisted Board:

**HQ Rep: CMSGT Mobley**

**HQ Representative**

#### Officer Board:

**HQ Rep: Major Pettis**

## Youth Challenge To Open Second Campus

Georgia's Youth Challenge Academy is poised to make history again as the second campus for this National Guard sponsored youth program is scheduled to open at Fort Gordon near Augusta. With the opening of the second campus, Georgia becomes only the second state with Mississippi to operate the highly successful youth program in two locations.

"Within a year, Georgia's Youth Challenge Academy will be graduating over a thousand students a year from our two campuses" said Major General David B. Poythress, Georgia's Adjutant General. In its first six years of operation, Georgia's Youth Challenge Academy has graduated more than 2,000 students.

The second campus will be ready for its first class of approximately 140 students on September 25. As with the original YCA campus at Fort Stewart, the Fort Gordon campus will operate two 22-week classes each year. For the planned two platoons which will open the new campus, more than 60 fulltime cadre members, administrators, counselors, medical and food service personnel will be hired. If a third platoon is added, this number could rise to over 75 fulltime employees.

"This expansion was made possible by a lot of hard work and cooperation by the state legislative delegation from Augusta as well as officials at Fort Gordon," said General Poythress. The cost of the expansion is \$2.4 million, which will be funded by matching state and federal dollars. New students will move into Viet Nam era barracks that have been renovated to meet building standards and the needs of both male and female students.

The first class at the Fort Stewart location arrives on September 24 followed on the 25th by the official grand opening.

The Fort Stewart campus, which graduated its first class in 1994, is also undergoing significant expansion providing room for an additional 240 students per class.

## SMSgt Morgan Joins Headquarters Staff

SMSgt Betty Morgan, formerly Command Chief for the 165AW in Savannah has been appointed by Brig Gen Wick Searcy to the position of Human Resources Advisor for the Georgia Air National Guard. Morgan succeeds SMSgt Watson Fluellen who retires from HQ, GA ANG in October.



# Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain's Corner  
by Clint Smith

## The Measure of a Life

In the seventies, Ed Roberts created the world's first commercially successful personal computer. He hired a teen-ager by the name of Bill Gates to write software. In 1977, Mr. Roberts sold the computer business. He fulfilled a dream by buying a farm.

At the age of 41, Ed Roberts entered medical school. Today, he is a physician in a small Georgia town. And Bill Gates is the head of the largest software company in the world.

Admiration and accolades have been bestowed upon Ed Roberts. His legacy will be highlighted by his pioneering role in the computer industry. But Dr. Roberts comments, "The implication is that the PC is the most important thing I've ever done, and I don't think that's true. Every day I deal with things that are equally if not more important here with my patients."

How do you measure the life of a man? It cannot be measured by fame, power, and wealth. In the Bible, the apostle Paul's life is noteworthy for many reasons. After he turned his life over to God, he accomplished so much in helping others. As he approached the final stages of his life, he wrote, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (2 Tim. 4:7). He turned to the Lord for approval and acceptance with peace in his heart and salvation for eternity. He lived in accordance with the desires of God – discarding selfishness and cruelty and instead demonstrating love and caring for others.

**The measure of a life is determined by our Lord.**

**Read: 2 Timothy 4: 1-8**

Chapel Service: Sunday, 17 September at 0700 in the Base Chapel

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

**CMSgt Bobby Mobley**  
**CMSgt David Frazier**  
**SMSgt Dawnn Inge**  
**CMSgt Tommy Davis**

**14 September**  
**21 September**  
**26 September**  
**28 September**

# Don't Miss the Headquarters Family Picnic



Saturday 16 September 11:30 a.m.

Navy Picnic Pavilion

*You and your family are cordially  
invited*